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16 *and Debtors in Possession*

17 **UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT**
18 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
19 **SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

20 **In re:**

21 **PG&E CORPORATION,**

22 **Debtor.**

23 **Tax I.D. No. 94-3234914**

24 Case Nos. 19 - _____ (____)
19 - _____ (____)

25 Chapter 11

26 **MOTION OF DEBTORS PURSUANT TO 11 U.S.C.
§§ 105(a), 363(b), AND 507 AND FED. R. BANKR. P.
6003 AND 6004 FOR INTERIM AND FINAL
AUTHORITY TO (I) (A) CONTINUE EXISTING CASH
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, (B) HONOR CERTAIN
PREPETITION OBLIGATIONS RELATED TO THE
USE THEREOF, (C) CONTINUE INTERCOMPANY
ARRANGEMENTS, (D) CONTINUE TO HONOR
OBLIGATIONS RELATED TO JOINT
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, AND (E) MAINTAIN
EXISTING BANK ACCOUNTS AND BUSINESS
FORMS; AND (II) WAIVING THE REQUIREMENTS
OF 11 U.S.C. § 345(b)**

27 **In re:**

28 **PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC
COMPANY,**

29 **Debtor.**

30 **Tax I.D. No. 94-0742640**

31 Date:
32 Time:
33 Place:

1 PG&E Corporation (“**PG&E Corp.**”) and Pacific Gas and Electric Company (the “**Utility**”), as
2 debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, “**PG&E**” or the “**Debtors**”) in the above-captioned
3 chapter 11 cases (the “**Chapter 11 Cases**”), hereby submit this Motion (the “**Motion**”), pursuant to
4 sections 105(a), 345(b), 363(b), 363(c), and 364(a) of title 11 of the United States Code
5 (the “**Bankruptcy Code**”) and Rules 6003 and 6004 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure
6 (the “**Bankruptcy Rules**”), requesting interim and final authority, in the ordinary course of business
7 and consistent with the Debtors’ prepetition practices, to (i)(a) continue operating their existing cash
8 management system (the “**Cash Management System**”), as described herein, including the continued
9 maintenance of existing bank accounts at the Debtors’ banks (the “**Banks**”), (b) honor certain
10 prepetition obligations related to the Cash Management System, (c) continue certain intercompany
11 arrangements among the Debtors and certain non-Debtor affiliates and subsidiaries (the “**Non-Debtor**
12 **Affiliates and Subsidiaries**”), (d) continue to honor all obligations with respect to certain Joint
13 Infrastructure Projects (as defined below), and (e) maintain existing business forms; and (ii) waive the
14 requirements of section 345(b) of the Bankruptcy Code to the extent they apply to any of the Bank
15 Accounts (as defined below).

16 In furtherance of the foregoing, the Debtors request that the Court authorize, but not direct, the
17 Banks to receive, process, honor, and pay all checks presented for payment and electronic payment
18 requests relating to the foregoing to the extent the Debtors have sufficient funds standing to their credit
19 with such Bank, whether such checks were presented or electronic request were submitted before or
20 after the Petition Date (as defined below), and that all such Banks be authorized to rely on the Debtors’
21 designation of any particular check or electronic payment request as appropriate pursuant to this Motion
22 without any duty of further inquiry and without liability for following the Debtors’ instructions. A
23 proposed form of order granting the relief requested herein on an interim basis is annexed hereto as
24 **Exhibit A** (the “**Proposed Interim Order**”).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
I. JURISDICTION	7
II. BACKGROUND	7
III. THE CASH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND BANK ACCOUNTS.....	7
A. Collection Accounts.....	10
B. Concentration Accounts.....	12
C. Disbursement Accounts	13
D. Intercompany Transactions.....	15
E. Joint Infrastructure and Co-Ownership Projects.....	19
F. Short-Term Investment Policy	19
G. Bank and Payment Processing Fees.....	20
H. The Debtors' Existing Business Forms and Checks.....	21
IV. BASIS FOR RELIEF REQUESTED.....	21
A. Continuation of the Cash Management System is in the Best Interests of the Debtors and All Other Parties in Interest.....	21
B. Continued Performance of Intercompany Transactions Is Warranted.....	27
C. Maintenance of the Debtors' Existing Bank Accounts and Business Forms is Warranted	28
D. Waiver of the Requirements of Section 345(b) of the Bankruptcy Code Is Warranted.....	30
V. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS	33
VI. IMMEDIATE ENTRY OF AN ORDER PURSUANT TO BANKRUPTCY RULE 6003..	33
VII. REQUEST FOR BANKRUPTCY RULE 6004 WAIVERS.....	34
VIII. NOTICE.....	34

	TABLE OF AUTHORITIES	
2	Cases	Page(s)
3	<i>In re Adams Apple, Inc.</i> , 829 F.2d 1484 (9th Cir. 1987)	26, 27
4	<i>In re Anchorage Nautical Tours, Inc.</i> , 145 B.R. 637 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1992).....	25
5	<i>In Matter of B & W Enterprises, Inc.</i> , 713 F.2d 534 (9th Cir. 1983)	26
6	<i>Berg & Berg Enterprises, LLC v. Boyle</i> , 178 Cal. App. 4th 1020 (2009)	24
7	<i>In re Blue Earth, Inc.</i> , Case No. 16-30296-DM (Bankr. N.D. Cal. Mar. 23, 2016)	27
8	<i>F.D.I.C. v. Castetter</i> , 184 F.3d 1040 (9th Cir. 1999)	24
9	<i>In re Chateaugay Corp.</i> , 80 B.R. 279 (S.D.N.Y. 1987).....	26
10	<i>Comm. of Asbestos-Related Litigants v. Johns-Manville Corp. (In re Johns-Manville Corp.)</i> , 60 B.R. 612 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1986).....	24
11	<i>In re Curry & Sorensen, Inc.</i> , 57 B.R. 824 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1986).....	25
12	<i>Czyzewski v. Jevic Holding Corp.</i> , 137 S. Ct. 973 (2017).....	25
13	<i>In re Eagle-Picher Indus., Inc.</i> , 124 B.R. 1021 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio 1991).....	26
14	<i>In re Financial News Network, Inc.</i> , 134 B.R. 732 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1991).....	25
15	<i>In re First Protection, Inc.</i> , 440 B.R. 821 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2010).....	23
16	<i>Gordon v. Hines (In re Hines)</i> , 147 F.3d 1185 (9th Cir. 1998)	27
17	<i>In re Gulf Air</i> , 112 B.R. 152 (Bankr. W.D. La. 1989).....	26
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		

1	<i>In re Ionosphere Clubs, Inc.</i> , 98 B.R. 174 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1989).....	24
2	<i>In re Just For Feet, Inc.</i> , 242 B.R. 821 (D. Del. 1999).....	25
3	<i>Meoli v. Am. Med. Serv. of San Diego</i> , 287 B.R. 808 (S.D. Cal. 2003).....	23
4	<i>Miltenberger v. Logansport, C&S W.R. Co.</i> , 106 U.S. 286 (1882).....	25
5	<i>In re Nellson Nutraceutical, Inc.</i> , 369 B.R. 787 (Bankr. D. Del. 2007)	23
6	<i>In re NVR L.P.</i> , 147 B.R. 126 (Bankr. E.D. Va. 1992).....	26
7	<i>In re OccMeds Billing Servs., Inc.</i> , Case No. 07-28444, 2008 WL 73690 (Bankr. E.D. Cal. Jan. 3, 2008).....	23
8	<i>Official Comm. of Subordinated Bondholders v. Integrated Res., Inc. (In re Integrated Res., Inc.)</i> , 147 B.R. 650 (S.D.N.Y. 1992).....	24
9	<i>In re Pettit Oil Co.</i> , No. 13-47285, 2015 WL 6684225 (Bankr. W.D. Wash. Oct. 22, 2015)	5
10	<i>In re RDIO, Inc.</i> , Case No. 15-31430-DM.....	27
11	<i>In re Roth Am., Inc.</i> , 975 F.2d 949 (3d Cir. 1992).....	23
12	<i>Scouler & Co., LLC v. Schwartz</i> , No. 11-CV-06377 NC, 2012 WL 1502762 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 23, 2012)	24
13	<i>In re Serv. Merch. Co.</i> , 240 B.R. 894 (Bankr. M.D. Tenn. 1999)	33
14	<i>Smith v. Van Gorkom</i> , 488 A.2d 858 (Del. 1985)	24
15	<i>In re Structurlite Plastics Corp.</i> , 86 B.R. 922 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio 1988).....	26
16	<i>In re Tri-Valley Learning Corporation</i> , Case No. 16-43112-CN (Bankr. N.D. Cal. December 6, 2016)	27
17	Statutes	
18	11 U.S.C. § 105(a).....	2, 23, 25, 26

1	11 U.S.C. § 345(a)	31, 32
2	11 U.S.C. § 345(b)	<i>passim</i>
3	11 U.S.C. § 363	23, 24
4	11 U.S.C. § 363(b)	2, 24
5	11 U.S.C. § 363(c)	2, 23, 28, 29
6	11 U.S.C. § 364(a)	2
7	11 U.S.C. § 365	34
8	11 U.S.C. § 1107	23
9	11 U.S.C. § 1107(a)	8, 25
10	11 U.S.C. § 1108	8, 23
11	28 U.S.C. § 157	8
12	28 U.S.C. § 1334	8
13	28 U.S.C. § 1408	8
14	28 U.S.C. § 1409	8
15	31 U.S.C. § 9303	25
16	Other Authorities	
17	Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act	9
18	B.L.R. § 2015-1(a)	1, 21
19	Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002	35
20	Fed. R. Bankr. P. 6003	2, 34, 35
21	Fed. R. Bankr. P. 6004	2, 28
22	<i>Order Referring Bankruptcy Cases and Proceedings to Bankruptcy Judges,</i> General Order 24 (N.D. Cal.)	7
23	Sarbanes–Oxley Act of 2002	20
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		

1 MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

2 I. JURISDICTION

3 The Court has jurisdiction to consider this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334, the
4 *Order Referring Bankruptcy Cases and Proceedings to Bankruptcy Judges*, General Order 24 (N.D.
5 Cal.), and Rule 5011-1(a) of the Bankruptcy Local Rules for the United States District Court for the
6 Northern District of California (the “**Bankruptcy Local Rules**”). This is a core proceeding pursuant
7 to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b). Venue is proper before the Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

8 II. BACKGROUND

9 On the date hereof (the “**Petition Date**”), the Debtors commenced with the Court voluntary
10 cases under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The Debtors continue to operate their businesses and
11 manage their properties as debtors in possession pursuant to sections 1107(a) and 1108 of the
12 Bankruptcy Code. No trustee, examiner, or statutory committee has been appointed in either of the
13 Chapter 11 Cases.

14 Additional information regarding the circumstances leading to the commencement of the
15 Chapter 11 Cases and information regarding the Debtors’ businesses and capital structure is set forth in
16 the Declaration of Jason P. Wells, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of PG&E Corp.,
17 filed contemporaneously herewith in support of the Debtors’ chapter 11 petitions and related first day
18 relief (the “**Wells Declaration**”).

19 III. THE CASH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND BANK ACCOUNTS

20 In the ordinary course of business, the Debtors utilize their Cash Management System, which is
21 an integrated, centralized system designed to collect, transfer, and disburse funds generated by their
22 electricity and natural gas operations. The Cash Management System has several main components:
23 (i) cash collection, including the collection of payments made to the Debtors from revenue generated
24 in the ordinary course through the sale and delivery of electricity and natural gas to customers;
25 (ii) relatively minimal cash transfers among the Debtors and certain Non-Debtor Affiliates and
26 Subsidiaries; and (iii) cash disbursements that fund the Debtors’ business operations and related
27 obligations. Although the Utility and PG&E Corp. each maintain separate systems, the Cash
28 Management System is an integrated system. Pursuant to that certain *Restated Continuing Services*

1 *Agreement*, dated October 15, 1999, between the Utility and PG&E Corp. (the “**PG&E Corp. CSA**”),
2 the Utility operates the cash management system of PG&E Corp. and all transfers between accounts
3 held by PG&E Corp. and the Utility are made pursuant to wire transfers in accordance with the PG&E
4 Corp. CSA. It is critical that the Cash Management System remains intact during these Chapter 11
5 Cases to ensure the seamless continuation of transactions and the uninterrupted supply of power and
6 electricity to the Utility’s customers.

7 The Cash Management System facilitates cash monitoring, forecasting, and reporting and
8 enables the Debtors to maintain control over the administration of the Bank Accounts located at the
9 Banks, including, but not limited to, the accounts listed on Schedule 1 annexed to the Proposed Interim
10 Order. The Debtors maintain one-hundred eight (108) bank accounts (each, a “**Bank Account**” and,
11 collectively, the “**Bank Accounts**”) at various Banks, of which thirty (30) are actively used in the Cash
12 Management System (such accounts, the “**Primary Bank Accounts**”). Of the Primary Bank Accounts,
13 sixteen (16) accounts are maintained at The Bank of New York Mellon (“**BNYM**”), six (6) accounts
14 are maintained at Bank of America, N.A. (“**BoAML**”), four (4) accounts are maintained at Citibank,
15 N.A. (“**Citi**”), one (1) account is maintained at Royal Bank of Canada (“**RBC**”), two (2) accounts are
16 maintained at Union Bank of California (“**Union Bank**”), and one (1) account is maintained at U.S.
17 Bank, N.A (“**U.S. Bank**”). Twenty-one (21) of the Primary Bank Accounts are maintained at Banks
18 designated as authorized depositories by the Office of the United States Trustee for Region 17 (the
19 “**U.S. Trustee**”) pursuant to the U.S. Trustee’s Guidelines (the “**UST Guidelines**”).

20 The remaining seventy-eight (78) Bank Accounts are not utilized in the day-to-day flow of
21 funds throughout the Cash Management System and are comprised mainly of specialized accounts,
22 including: (a) forty-nine (49) tax-exempt bond accounts, maintained in connection with each of the
23 Debtors’ tax-exempt debt issuances, held at Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas (the “**Deutsche
24 Bank Bond Accounts**”), (b) six (6) escrow accounts maintained in connection with ongoing
25 partnerships with third-parties held at U.S. Bank N.A. Global Corporate Trust Services (the “**U.S. Bank
26 Escrow Accounts**”), (c) three (3) trust accounts maintained in connection with retirement benefits –
27 two (2) held at Wells Fargo Bank N.A. (Acct No. XX5300 and XX5400) and one (1) at Fidelity
28 Management Trust Company (Acct No. XX0137) (the “**Retiree Benefit Trust Accounts**”), (d) one

(1) account to hold certain reserve funds for employees who work with asbestos in the course of their employment required under the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act held at BoAML (Acct No. XX2988) (the “**Asbestos Medical Reserve Account**”), (e) two (2) accounts for contributions to political action committees funded from voluntary deductions from employee payroll held at Bank of Marin (Acct Nos. XX0132 and XX0140) (the “**PAC Accounts**”), (f) two (2) legacy accounts established prior to the transition to payroll at BoAML (Acct No. XX7115) for employees to cash checks held at BNYM (Acct No. XX4017) and at BoAML (Acct No. XX1675) (the “**Legacy Payroll Accounts**”), (g) one (1) account that was used to hold funds from PG&E’s Corp.’s Commercial Paper Program held at Citi (Acct No. XX9167) (the “**CP Account**” and together with the Deutsche Bank Bond Accounts, the U.S Bank Escrow Accounts, the Retiree Benefit Trust Accounts, the Asbestos Medical Reserve Account, the PAC Accounts, and the Legacy Payroll Accounts, the “**Specialty Accounts**”), and (h) fourteen (14) dormant accounts with no activity or *de minimis* balances (the “**Dormant Accounts**”).

The Debtors maintain robust controls relating to the Cash Management System. The Cash Management System is overseen by personnel working in the Banking and Money Management (“**B&MM**”) division of the Utility’s treasury department (the “**Treasury Department**”). B&MM manages all aspects of the Cash Management System, providing services that include cash positioning, cash concentration, wire transfers, automated clearing house (“**ACH**”) transfers, tax payments, and the issuance of short-term debt and purchase or redemption of investments, as well as managing bank accounts for certain Non-Debtor Affiliates and Subsidiaries. On a daily basis, B&MM prepares a cash summary that reflects the cash position after incoming and outgoing payments (via cash, wire transfer, ACH, or check), including short-term debt and short-term investment purchases or redemptions. Although certain recurring electronic payments are made automatically, disbursements by wire transfer require dual approval, and disbursements by check are reconciled before they clear. In preparing the daily cash summary, B&MM conducts a review of cash account balances, confirms that all manual wire transfers have been properly authorized, and determines whether all investments are in line with the Debtors’ short-term investment policy (the “**Short-Term Investment Policy**”). Under the oversight of each of the Debtor’s Controller, corporate accounting reconciles all Bank Account

1 balances against the Debtors' books and records on a monthly basis. Various levels of authorizations
2 are required for the release of disbursements, which are determined by the size and type of the
3 disbursement.

4 As explained in further detail below, the Cash Management System is generally comprised of
5 four (4) different types of accounts: (a) collection accounts into which cash and other receivables
6 generated from the Debtors' operations are deposited (collectively, the "**Collection Accounts**"), (b)
7 concentration accounts into which cash is automatically swept from the various Collection Accounts
8 on a daily basis (collectively, the "**Concentration Accounts**"), (c) disbursement accounts for
9 designated disbursements (collectively, the "**Disbursement Accounts**"), and (d) the Specialty
10 Accounts. An average of approximately \$81.6 million in receipts and \$86.0 million in disbursements
11 flows through the Cash Management System per banking day. A diagram illustrating the general
12 movement of cash through the Cash Management System is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**.

13 Given the complexity of the Debtors' operations and the volume of transactions processed
14 through the Cash Management System each day, maintaining the Cash Management System in its
15 current state is crucial to the Debtors' continued operations. Any disruption to the Cash Management
16 System would unnecessarily and significantly disrupt the Debtors' operations, which may result in
17 power outages or other service disruptions to the Debtors' customers, and may impede the successful
18 administration of these Chapter 11 Cases.

19 A. **Collection Accounts**

20 1. Utility Collection Accounts

21 As part of its daily operations, the Utility collects cash, checks, wire transfers, ACH payments,
22 and credit card and debit card payments from customers and certain third parties. As described below,
23 these funding sources flow into the Utility Master Concentration Account (as defined herein) through
24 nine (9) depository accounts (the "**Utility Depository Accounts**"). When the Utility is in receipt of
25 proceeds from non-recurring funding sources such as tax refunds, debt issuances, and rebates issued
26 by regional service operators and/or independent system operators, such proceeds are deposited
27 directly into the Utility Master Concentration Account (as defined below).

a) Customer Depository Accounts

The Utility maintains five (5) Utility Depository Accounts (each a “**Utility Customer Depository Account**”) that process customer payments. Two (2) Utility Customer Depository Accounts (Acct Nos. XX5477 and XX7822) are held at BNYM, one (1) account (Acct No. XX1958) is held at Citi, one (1) account (Acct No. XX0817) is held at BoAML, and one (1) account (Acct No. XX5581) is held at Union Bank. The BNYM, BoAML, and Citi Utility Customer Depository Accounts only accept electronic payments posted through online and mobile payment channels and customer ACH debits. The Union Bank Utility Customer Depository Account collects cash and check payments that are either mailed to the Utility or made directly at the Utility’s local offices. All of the Utility Customer Depository Accounts, except for the Union Bank Account, are zero balance accounts, meaning they do not carry a cash balance at the end of each business day. The funds in the Citi and BoAML Utility Customer Depository Accounts are swept into the Citi Utility Concentration Account and BoaML Utility Concentration Accounts (each as defined herein), respectively, on a daily basis, where the funds ultimately flow into the Utility Master Concentration Account. The BNYM Utility Customer Depository Accounts are swept into the Utility Master Concentration Account on a daily basis.

b) Utility Campground Collection Accounts

The Utility also maintains two (2) Utility Depository Accounts (the “**Utility Campground Depository Accounts**”) that process payments from customers that use campgrounds owned by the Utility. One (1) Utility Campground Depository Account is held at U.S. Bank (Acct No. XX2311) and one (1) Utility Campground Depository Account is held at BoAML (Acct No. XX2302).

c) Non-Energy Collection Account

The Utility also maintains one (1) Utility Depository Account to collect funds from certain non-energy related revenue sources held at Citi (Acct No. XX2901).

d) Outside Collections Accounts

In the ordinary course of business, the Utility contracts with third-parties to collect on customer accounts that have fallen into delinquency. The proceeds of such activities are deposited into a Utility Customer Depository Account held at Citi (Acct No. XXX2316) (the “**Utility Outside Collection**

1 **Account”).** The Utility Outside Collection Account is a zero balance account and is swept into the
2 Citi Utility Concentration Account on a daily basis.

3 2. PG&E Corp. Collection Accounts

4 As PG&E Corp.’s primary asset is its equity interest in the Utility, it does not maintain any
5 third-party collection accounts.

6 B. **Concentration Accounts¹**

7 1. Utility Concentration Accounts

8 The Utility maintains three (3) accounts where it concentrates and collects cash from its various
9 Depository Accounts (collectively, the “**Utility Concentration Accounts**”): (a) one (1) primary
10 concentration account with BNYM (Acct No. XX9994) (the “**Utility Master Concentration
11 Account**”); (b) one (1) customer deposit concentration account with BoAML (Acct No. XX3212) (the
12 “**BoAML Utility Concentration Account**”); and (c) one (1) customer deposit concentration account
13 with Citi (Acct No. XX0901) (the “**Citi Utility Concentration Account**”). The Utility funds its
14 business operations and related expenditures from the revenues and funds that flow through the Utility
15 Concentration Accounts, including payments of principal and interest on account of the Utility’s
16 prepetition debt and intercompany payments made to StanPac (as defined below), Gill Ranch (as
17 defined below), and PG&E Corp. (pursuant to the PG&E Corp. CSA). The Utility Master
18 Concentration Account serves as the Utility’s main centralized operating account into which receipts
19 and customer payments are ultimately deposited from the Utility Customer Depository Accounts and
20 from which disbursements are made throughout the Cash Management System as necessary.
21 Historically, the proceeds of financings and draws on the Utility’s \$3 billion prepetition unsecured
22 revolving credit facility were deposited directly into the Utility Master Concentration Account. As of
23 the date hereof, such facility had approximately \$35 million of undrawn capacity. Additionally, from
24 time to time, excess funds in the Utility Master Concentration Account at the close of market may be
25 invested by B&MM on an overnight basis until the following business day, in accordance with the

26 ¹ Prior to the Petition Date, the Utility issued commercial paper in the ordinary course of business to
27 cover short-term liquidity needs (the “**Commercial Paper Program**”). Citi served as the issuing and
28 payment agent with respect to issuances and redemptions of commercial paper under the Commercial
Paper Program. The Commercial Paper Program is not currently active and the Debtors are not
currently seeking relief to continue the Commercial Paper Program at this time.

1 Debtors' Short-Term Investment Policy, which is discussed in further detail below.

2 Funds in the BoAML Utility Customer Depository Account are automatically swept into the
3 BoAML Utility Concentration Account on a daily basis. The funds in each of the Citi Utility Customer
4 Depository Account and the Citi Utility Outside Collections Depository Account are automatically
5 swept into the Citi Utility Concentration Account on a daily basis. Funds in the BoAML Utility
6 Concentration Account and Citi Utility Concentration Account are manually drawn down to the Utility
7 Master Concentration Account on a daily basis. The Utility Campground Depository Accounts are
8 manual swept into the Utility Master Concentration Account on a periodic basis.

9 2. PG&E Corp. Concentration Accounts

10 PG&E Corp. concentrates and collects its cash in one primary account with BNYM (Acct No.
11 XX9023) (the "**PG&E Corp. Master Concentration Account**"). PG&E Corp. funds its business
12 operations and related expenditures from the revenues and funds that flow through the PG&E Corp.
13 Master Concentration Account, including payments of principal and interest on account of PG&E's
14 prepetition debt and intercompany payments made to the Utility pursuant to the PG&E Corp. CSA.
15 The PG&E Corp. Master Concentration Account serves as PG&E Corp.'s main centralized operating
16 account into which funds are ultimately deposited from transfers from the Utility pursuant to the PG&E
17 Corp. CSA and from which disbursements are made throughout the Cash Management System as
18 necessary.

19 Historically, the proceeds of financings and draws on PG&E Corp.'s \$300 million prepetition
20 unsecured revolving credit facility were deposited directly into the PG&E Corp. Master Concentration
21 Account. As of the date hereof, the revolving credit facility is fully drawn. Additionally, from time to
22 time, excess funds in the PG&E Corp. Master Concentration Account at the close of market may be
23 invested by B&MM on an overnight basis until the following business day, in accordance with the
24 Debtors' Short-Term Investment Policy, which is discussed in further detail below.

25 C. Disbursement Accounts

26 1. Utility Disbursement Accounts

27 The Utility uses the funds in the Utility Master Concentration Account to fund its ongoing
28 operations through nine (9) disbursement accounts (collectively, the "**Utility Disbursement**

1 **Accounts”**). All of the Utility Disbursement Accounts are zero balance accounts. On a daily basis,
2 the Utility projects its disbursement obligations and funds the Utility Disbursement Accounts
3 accordingly. The following is a brief summary of the various Utility Disbursement Accounts.

- 4 • **Vendor Disbursement Account.** Two (2) disbursement accounts at BNYM
5 (Acct Nos. XX9978 and XX9990) are designated to fund nearly all operating
expenses and capital expenditures related to the Utility’s business operations,
including all third party vendor, supplier payments and customer payments as well
as employee expense reimbursements.
- 7 • **BoAML Payroll Disbursement Accounts.** One (1) disbursement account at
BoAML (Acct No. XX7115) is used to fund employee payroll, which is funded
from the BoAML Concentration Account.
- 9 • **Disability Disbursement Account.** The Utility maintains an account at BNYM
(Acct No. XX8544) dedicated to making distributions to employee participants in
the Utility’s short-term disability plan.
- 10 • **Customer Refund and Rebate Accounts.** The Utility maintains two (2)
11 additional disbursement accounts at BNYM (Acct Nos. XX3044 and XX3532)
which distribute refunds, rebates, and reimbursements to the Utility’s customers.
- 12 • **RBC Currency Exchange Account.** The Utility maintains a disbursement
13 account with RBC (Acct No. XX0446) to facilitate purchases of natural gas from
Canadian entities that only accept payment in Canadian dollars.
- 14 • **Gill Ranch Operating Account.** As discussed in more detail below, the Utility
15 maintains an operating account for the Gill Ranch natural gas storage facility at
BNYM (Acct No. XX4122).
- 16 • **Land Drafts Account.** The Utility maintains a disbursement account with
17 BNYM (Acct No. XX0143) to issue checks in connection with health care and
injury claims incurred by individuals and with the Utility’s land management
activities.

18 2. PG&E Corp. Disbursement Accounts

19 PG&E Corp. uses the funds in the PG&E Corp. Master Concentration Account to fund its
20 ongoing operations through five (5) disbursement accounts (collectively, the “**PG&E Corp.**
21 **Disbursement Accounts22 On a daily basis, PG&E Corp. projects its disbursement obligations and funds the PG&E Corp.
23 Disbursement Accounts accordingly. The following is a brief summary of the various PG&E Corp.
24 Disbursement Accounts.**

- 25 • **Vendor Disbursement Account.** One (1) disbursement account at BNYM (Acct
26 No. XX4558) is designated to fund nearly all operating expenses and capital
expenditures related to PG&E Corp.’s operations, including all third-party vendor
and supplier payments.
- 28 • **Payroll Disbursement Accounts.** One (1) disbursement account at BNYM
(Account No. XX9946) (the “**PG&E Corp. Payroll Funding Account**

1 (2) payroll disbursement accounts at BoAML (Acct Nos. XX7981 and XX7107),
2 with one utilized for checks and the other for direct deposit payments, each of
such accounts is funded from the PG&E Corp. Payroll Funding Account.

3 • **Union Bank Payroll Account.** PG&E Corp. maintains one (1) payroll account
4 at Union Bank of California (Acct No. XX9557) to comply with certain state law
requirements.

5 **D. Intercompany Transactions**

6 In the ordinary course of business, the Debtors maintain business relationships among
7 themselves and with the Non-Debtor Affiliates and Subsidiaries, which result in intercompany
8 receivables and payables (the “**Intercompany Transactions**”). The various categories of
9 Intercompany Transactions are summarized in further detail below. The Debtors maintain records of
10 all transfers and, therefore, can ascertain, trace, and account for all Intercompany Transactions, and
11 will continue to do so during these Chapter 11 Cases. If the Intercompany Transactions were to be
12 discontinued, the Cash Management System and related administrative controls would be disrupted to
13 the detriment of the Debtors and all stakeholders. Accordingly, the Debtors are seeking authority to
14 continue the Intercompany Transactions and make any prepetition payments related thereto.

15 1. The PG&E Corp. CSA

16 The Utility and PG&E Corp. are parties to the PG&E Corp. CSA. Under the terms of the PG&E
17 Corp. CSA, PG&E Corp. provides certain corporate services to the Utility, including, among other
18 things, management staffing, strategic planning, and investor relations support (the “**PG&E Corp.**
19 **Affiliate Services**”). From time to time, PG&E Corp. also contributed certain equity securities to the
20 Utility, which the Utility distributed to its employees in accordance with its share-based employee
21 incentive plans (the “**PG&E Corp. Equity Contributions**”). The Utility and PG&E Corp. also share
22 certain corporate services and allocate the relative costs of such services and expenses between each
23 other, including, without limitation, accounting and audit functions, money management and
24 investment services, payroll administration, legal, governance, and public relations (the “**Shared**
25 **Services**”). Furthermore, the Utility funds certain of PG&E Corp.’s operating expenses, including,
26 among other things, the purchase of insurance (the “**Corp. Expenses**”). The intercompany obligations
27 and related transfers that arise under the PG&E Corp. CSA are governed by California Public Utility
28 Commission (the “**CPUC**”) Decisions 96-11-017 and 97-12-088, as well as certain other CPUC-

1 approved tariffs, and are generally subject to CPUC oversight. PG&E Corp. invoices the Utility on a
2 monthly basis for reimbursement of the PG&E Corp. Affiliate Services, the Utility's allocation of the
3 Shared Services, including the costs incurred by PG&E Corp. for the purchase of any associated goods
4 during the preceding month, and, if applicable, the value of any PG&E Corp. Equity Contributions
5 ultimately distributed to the Utility's employees (collectively, the "**Corp. CSA Claims**"). Likewise,
6 the Utility invoices PG&E Corp. on a monthly basis for reimbursement of the costs of Shared Services
7 allocated to PG&E Corp., including the costs of any associated goods, as well as PG&E Corp.'s
8 allocated share of the Corp. Expenses that were incurred during the preceding month (collectively, the
9 "**Utility CSA Claims**"). Corp. CSA Claims are paid via wire transfer directly out of the Utility
10 Disbursement Account XX9978 (rather than book entry) and must be paid within 30 days of receipt of
11 invoice. Similarly, Utility CSA Claims are paid via wire transfer directly out of the PG&E Corp.
12 Disbursement Account XX4558 (rather than book entry) and must be paid within 30 days of receipt of
13 invoice. During the 12-month period prior to the Petition Date, the monthly average of Corp. CSA
14 Claims that the Utility owed to PG&E Corp. was approximately \$13.8 million, and that PG&E Corp.
15 owed to the Utility was approximately \$1.8 million.

16 2. Non-Debtor Affiliates' and Subsidiaries' Continuing Services Agreements

17 The Utility is party to shared services arrangements with certain Non-Debtor Affiliates and
18 Subsidiaries, including the following agreements: (a) that certain *Continuing Services Agreement*
19 between the Utility and PG&E Corporation Support Services, Inc., dated Oct. 15, 1999, (b) that certain
20 *Continuing Services Agreement* between the Utility and Pacific Energy Capital IV, LLC, dated July
21 27, 2010, (c) that certain *Continuing Services Agreement* between the Utility and PCG Capital, Inc.,
22 dated March 1, 2011, (d) that certain *Continuing Services Agreement* between the Utility and PG&E
23 Corporation Support Services II, Inc., dated April 16, 2007, (e) that certain *Continuing Services
24 Agreement* between the Utility and Certain Subsidiaries, including Eureka Energy Company, Natural
25 Gas Corporation of California, and Pacific Energy Fuels Company, dated March 28, 2008, and (f) that
26 certain *Continuing Services Agreement* between the Utility and Eureka Energy Company, dated
27 February 23, 2009 (collectively, the "**Utility Non-Debtor CSAs**").

28 PG&E Corp. has also entered into shared services arrangements with certain Non-Debtor

1 Affiliates and Subsidiaries, including the following agreements: (a) that certain *Continuing Services*
2 *Agreement* between PG&E Corp. and PG&E Corporation Support Services, Inc., dated Oct. 13, 1999
3 and (b) that certain Continuing Services Agreement between PG&E Corp. and PG&E Corporation
4 Support Services II, Inc., dated April 13, 2007 (collectively, the “**PG&E Corp. Non-Debtor CSAs**”
5 and, together with the Utility Non-Debtor CSAs, the “**Non-Debtor CSAs**”).

6 The Non-Debtor CSAs provide for the exchange of certain corporate services between the
7 Debtors and the applicable Non-Debtor Affiliates and Subsidiaries (the “**Non-Debtor Shared**
8 **Services**”). These Non-Debtor Shared Services are relatively *de minimis* and include, but are not
9 limited to, joint purchasing of third-party services and goods as well as shared services related to joint
10 corporate oversight, governance, support systems and personnel, to the extent such shared services
11 conform to requirements of CPUC Decision 97-12-088. On an annual basis, the net cash impact on
12 the Debtors with respect to amounts owed by the Debtors to the Non-Debtor Affiliates and Subsidiaries
13 and to the Debtors by the Non-Debtor Affiliates and Subsidiaries is effectively neutral. As of the
14 Petition Date, the Debtors estimate that they owe approximately \$500,000 on account of Non-Debtor
15 Shared Services.

3. Standard Pacific Gas Line

17 The Utility holds an 86% ownership interest in Standard Pacific Gas Line, Inc. (“**StanPac18 StanPac owns approximately 55 miles of natural gas pipelines located in Contra Costa County and the
19 greater Sacramento area. The Utility operates StanPac and regularly incurs related operating expenses
20 and capital costs (the “**StanPac CostsSystem Management and Operating
21 *Agreement*, dated March 28, 1996, among the Utility, StanPac, and Chevron Pipeline Company (the
22 “**StanPac Operating Agreement23 basis. Under the StanPac Operating Agreement, the Utility is obligated to fund its proportional,
24 allocated share of certain non-capital expenses, including taxes (the “**StanPac Non-Capital Costs25 on a monthly basis or at such time that such StanPac Non-Capital Costs come due. In the ordinary
26 course of business, the Utility wires an amount equal to its allocated share of the previous month’s
27 StanPac Non-Capital Costs directly to StanPac. During the 12-month period prior to the Petition Date,
28 the monthly average of StanPac Non-Capital Costs that the Utility paid to StanPac was approximately********

1 \$400,000. To maintain its pipeline connections to the intrastate and interstate natural gas pipeline grid,
2 it is critical that the Utility continue paying the StanPac Costs and StanPac Non-Capital Costs in the
3 ordinary course. As of the Petition Date, the Utility estimates that it owes approximately \$400,000 on
4 account of StanPac Costs and Stanpac Non-Capital Costs. and that approximately \$400,000 of that
5 amount will become due and payable within thirty (30) days after the Petition Date.

6 4. Gill Ranch Project

7 The Utility owns a 25% ownership interest in an underground natural gas storage facility (the
8 **“Gill Ranch Project”**) at Gill Ranch, located near Fresno, California, with a capacity of approximately
9 20 billion cubic feet. The other 75% of the Gill Ranch Project is owned by Gill Ranch Storage, LLC
10 (“**Gill Ranch LLC**”), the operator of the Gill Ranch Project, which, in turn, is owned by Norwest
11 Natural Gas. The Gill Ranch Project is linked to the Utility’s natural gas mainline transmission system,
12 allowing it to serve customers throughout California. Pursuant to that certain *Joint Project Agreement*,
13 dated January 31, 2018, between Gill Ranch LLC and the Utility, and that certain *Operator Agreement*,
14 dated January 31, 2008, between Gill Ranch LLC and the Utility (collectively, the **“Gill Ranch**
15 **Agreements”**), the Utility is obligated to fund its proportionate, allocated share of operating costs,
16 capital expenses, and certain other non-capital expenses for the Gill Ranch Project on a monthly basis
17 (the **“Gill Ranch Costs”**). To maintain access to its emergency natural gas reserves it is critical that
18 the Utility continue paying the Gill Ranch Costs in the ordinary course. Pursuant to the Gill Ranch
19 Agreements, and in the ordinary course of business, the Utility deposits an amount equal to its allocated
20 share of the previous month’s Gill Ranch Costs into an account maintained by the Utility and held at
21 BNYM (Acct. No. XX4122). The funds in such account are used by Gill Ranch LLC, as operator, to
22 develop, operate and manage the Gill Ranch Project in accordance with approved programs and
23 budgets. During the 12-month period prior to the Petition Date, the monthly average of Gill Ranch
24 Costs that the Utility owed in connection with the Gill Ranch Project was approximately \$200,000. As
25 of the Petition Date, the Utility estimates that it owes approximately \$200,000 on account of Gill Ranch
26 Costs and that approximately \$200,000 of that amount will become due and payable within thirty (30)
27 days after the Petition Date

1 **E. Joint Infrastructure and Co-Ownership Projects**

2 In the operation of its gas delivery and power distribution business, the Utility's infrastructure
3 often interfaces with third-party equipment, including various gas pipeline and electric transmission
4 interconnections. In some instances, certain pipelines, facilities, and transmission infrastructure are
5 jointly owned by the Utility and one or more third-parties (the "**Joint Infrastructure Projects**") and,
6 in some cases, are maintained to comply with regulatory and compliance requirements. The Joint
7 Infrastructure Projects are typically governed by contractual arrangements between the Utility and the
8 applicable third-party that provide for the scope of each party's obligations, including obligations to
9 operate and maintain the infrastructure, contribute capital, and/or pay for services. During the 12-
10 month period prior to the Petition Date, the monthly average that the Utility paid in connection with
11 the Joint Infrastructure Projects was *de minimis* and the monthly average that the Utility received in
12 connection with Joint Infrastructure Projects was approximately \$600,000. As of the Petition Date,
13 the Utility estimates that any amounts owed on account of the Joint Infrastructure Projects are *de
minimis*. The Debtors seek authority to pay such amounts, including any amounts relating to the period
14 prior to the Petition Date, as they come due in the ordinary course of business.

15 **F. Short-Term Investment Policy**

16 The Short-Term Investment Policy, a copy of which is annexed hereto as **Exhibit C**, provides
17 guidance for the Debtors to sweep excess funds in the Utility Master Concentration Account and the
18 PG&E Corp. Master Concentration Account on an overnight basis. The Debtors move excess funds
19 from those accounts to brokerage accounts held at BNYM (Acct No. XX98400 for the Utility and Acct
20 No. XX18400 for PG&E Corp). The amounts invested pursuant to the Short-Term Investment Policy
21 vary on a daily basis. Pursuant to the Short-Term Investment Policy, (i) investments are limited to
22 highly marketable, interest-earning securities with stable market values and maturities of 12 months or
23 less, and (ii) the Debtors must sufficiently assess the credit rating for parent companies of entities
24 issuing securities prior to investing in those securities.² The objective of the Short-Term Investment
25

26
27

² In addition, B&MM invests certain funds held by the Utility in the Voluntary Disability Plan
28 Insurance ("VPDI") brokerage account (Acct No. XX48400 held at BNYM), which account is
maintained to comply with certain state requirements relating to employee contributions to the
Debtors' VPDI.

1 Policy is to achieve the best available yield while ensuring safety and preservation of principal and
2 maintaining adequate liquidity to meet cash flow requirements. Investments made pursuant to the
3 Short-Term Investment Policy are subject to multiple internal controls which require, among other
4 things, that only designated employees may make investments pursuant to the Short-Term Investment
5 Policy, all investments must be in compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, financial
6 institutions must send confirmations of investment transactions directly to persons or departments
7 responsible for recording cash transactions, and monthly investment statements must be reconciled to
8 the Debtors' general ledger accounts. Typically, the following types of investments are approved
9 pursuant to the Short-Term Investment Policy: (i) money market mutual funds, (ii) bank-related
10 securities, (iii) U.S. government and government-sponsored securities, (iv) repurchase agreements, (v)
11 corporate debt securities, and (vi) state and local government obligations. During the pendency of the
12 Chapter 11 Cases, the Debtors will limit investments to U.S. government and government-sponsored
13 securities that are backed by the full faith and credit of the United States.

14 **G. Bank and Payment Processing Fees**

15 In the ordinary course of business, the Debtors incur and pay, honor, or allow to be deducted
16 from the appropriate Bank Accounts, certain service charges, repayments on account of ordinary course
17 ACH credit extensions (*e.g.*, in connection with the Banks' processing of refunds or mistaken payments
18 into Utility Depository Accounts), and other related fees, costs, and expenses charged by the Banks
19 (collectively, the "**Bank Fees**"). To the extent the balance in the applicable Bank Account decreases
20 below a threshold amount established by the applicable Bank, the Debtors may incur additional fees
21 for sending and receiving wire transfers, clearing checks, ACH transfers, and other transactions. In
22 addition, the Debtors pay certain payment processing fees to third parties relating to payment support
23 and processing for customers making payments by credit card, debit card, and ACH bank payment
24 (collectively, the "**Payment Processing Fees**"). The Debtors currently pay approximately \$140,000
25 per month on account of Bank Fees and approximately \$200,000 per month on account of Payment
26 Processing Fees. As of the Petition Date, the Debtors estimate that approximately \$140,000 in Bank
27 Fees and \$400,000 in Payment Processing Fees are accrued and unpaid and will become due in the
28 first thirty (30) days after the Petition Date. The Debtors seek authority to pay such amounts, including

1 any amounts relating to the period prior to the Petition Date, as they come due in the ordinary course
2 of business.

3 **H. The Debtors' Existing Business Forms and Checks**

4 In the ordinary course of business, the Debtors issue checks from time to time and use a variety
5 of correspondence and business forms, including, but not limited to, letterhead, purchase orders, and
6 invoices (collectively, the “**Business Forms**”). To minimize the expense to the Debtors’ estates
7 associated with developing and/or purchasing entirely new forms or otherwise complying with
8 Bankruptcy Local Rule 2015-1(a),³ the delay in conducting business prior to obtaining such forms, and
9 the confusion of suppliers and other vendors, the Debtors seek authority to continue using their
10 Business Forms substantially in the forms used immediately prior to the Petition Date, without
11 reference therein to the Debtors’ status as “Debtor in Possession.” The Debtors do not believe that any
12 prejudice will be suffered by any party of this relief is granted.

13 **IV. BASIS FOR RELIEF REQUESTED**

14 The orderly operation of the Debtors’ businesses requires the continuation of the Cash
15 Management System during these Chapter 11 Cases. Accordingly, the Debtors seek authority in the
16 ordinary course of business and consistent with the Debtors’ prepetition practices to: (a) continue
17 maintaining and operating the Cash Management System and to make ordinary course changes to it
18 consistent with prepetition practices, (b) honor certain prepetition obligations related to the Cash
19 Management System, (c) continue certain Intercompany Transactions with Non-Debtor Affiliates and
20 Subsidiaries, (d) continue to honor all obligations with respect to certain Joint Infrastructure Projects,
21 and (e) maintain existing Business Forms. Additionally, the Debtors seek a waiver of the requirements
22 of section 345(b) of the Bankruptcy Code to the extent they apply to any of the Bank Accounts.

23 **A. Continuation of the Cash Management System is in the Best Interests of the
24 Debtors and All Other Parties in Interest**

25 As set forth above, the Debtors request authority to continue using the Cash Management
26 System in the same manner as before the Petition Date and to implement ordinary course changes to

27 ³ Bankruptcy Local Rule 2015-1(a) requires that “[T]he signature card (or if there is none, the
28 depository agreement) for any account containing funds which are the property of a bankruptcy estate
must clearly indicate that the depositor or investor is a ‘debtor-in-possession’ or a trustee in
bankruptcy.”

1 the Cash Management System consistent with past practices. Such relief is appropriate under sections
2 363 and 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code.

3 Section 363(c)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code authorizes a debtor to “use property of the estate in
4 the ordinary course of business without notice or a hearing.” 11 U.S.C. § 363(c)(1). The purpose of
5 this section is to provide a debtor with the flexibility to engage in the ordinary transactions required to
6 operate its business without unneeded oversight by its creditors or the court.

7 *Meoli v. Am. Med. Serv. of San Diego*, 287 B.R. 808, 817 n.3 (S.D. Cal. 2003) (stating that
8 363(c)(1) is designed to provide “wide-ranging management authority over the debtor”); *see also In re
9 First Protection, Inc.*, 440 B.R. 821, 833 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 2010) (a debtor may “enter into transactions,
10 including the sale or lease of property of the estate, in the ordinary course of business, without notice
11 or a hearing, and to use property of the estate in the ordinary course of business without notice or a
12 hearing” when the debtor’s business is being operated under sections 1107 and 1108 of the Bankruptcy
13 Code); *In re Roth Am., Inc.*, 975 F.2d 949, 952 (3d Cir. 1992) (“Section 363 is designed to strike [a]
14 balance, allowing a business to continue its daily operations without excessive court or creditor
15 oversight and protecting secured creditors and others from dissipation of the estate’s assets.”) (citations
16 omitted). Included within the purview of section 363(c) of the Bankruptcy Code is a debtor’s ability
17 to continue “routine transactions” necessitated by a debtor’s cash management system. *See, e.g., In re
18 OccMeds Billing Servs., Inc.*, Case No. 07-28444, 2008 WL 73690, at *3 (Bankr. E.D. Cal. Jan. 3,
19 2008) (noting that so long as bank accounts are not a creditor’s cash collateral “the debtor does not
20 need the permission of the court to use them in ordinary course of its business”); *In re Nellson
21 Nutraceutical, Inc.*, 369 B.R. 787, 796 (Bankr. D. Del. 2007) (noting that courts have shown a
22 reluctance to interfere in a debtor’s making of routine, day-to-day business decisions) (citations
23 omitted). Accordingly, the Debtors believe they are authorized pursuant to section 363(c)(1) of the
24 Bankruptcy Code to continue the collection, concentration, and disbursement of cash pursuant to their
25 Cash Management System as described above, including Intercompany Transactions.

26 The Cash Management System constitutes an ordinary-course and essential business practice
27 providing significant benefits to the Debtors, including the ability to control corporate funds, ensure
28 the maximum availability of funds when and where necessary, reduce borrowing costs and

1 administrative expenses by facilitating the movement of funds, and ensure the availability of timely
2 and accurate account balance information consistent with prepetition practices. The use of the Cash
3 Management System has historically reduced the Debtors' expenses by enabling the Debtors to use
4 funds in an optimal and efficient manner. Accordingly, the continued use of the Cash Management
5 System without interruption is vital to the Debtors' business operations and the success of these
6 Chapter 11 Cases.

7 The Court may approve the continuation of the Cash Management System even if it is
8 determined to be outside of the ordinary course. Section 363(b) of the Bankruptcy Code provides, in
9 relevant part, that “[t]he [debtor], after notice and a hearing, may use, sell, or lease, other than in the
10 ordinary course of business, property of the estate.” 11 U.S.C. § 363(b)(1). Under section 363 of the
11 Bankruptcy Code, a court may authorize a debtor to pay certain prepetition claims where a sound
12 business purposes exists for doing so. *See In re Ionosphere Clubs, Inc.*, 98 B.R. 174, 175 (Bankr.
13 S.D.N.Y. 1989). The business judgment rule is satisfied where “the directors of a corporation acted
14 on an informed basis, in good faith and in the honest belief that the action taken was in the best interests
15 of the company.” *See, e.g., Official Comm. of Subordinated Bondholders v. Integrated Res., Inc. (In*
16 *re Integrated Res., Inc.*), 147 B.R. 650, 656 (S.D.N.Y. 1992) (*quoting Smith v. Van Gorkom*, 488 A.2d
17 858, 872 (Del. 1985)); *see also F.D.I.C. v. Castetter*, 184 F.3d 1040, 1043 (9th Cir. 1999) (the business
18 judgment rule “requires directors to perform their duties in good faith and as an ordinarily prudent
19 person in a like circumstance would”). “Where the debtor articulates a reasonable basis for its business
20 decisions (as distinct from a decision made arbitrarily or capriciously), courts will generally not
21 entertain objections to the debtor’s conduct.” *Comm. of Asbestos-Related Litigants v. Johns-Manville*
22 *Corp. (In re Johns-Manville Corp.)*, 60 B.R. 612, 616 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1986). Courts construing
23 California corporate law have consistently declined to interfere with corporate decisions absent a
24 showing of bad faith, self-interest, or gross negligence, and have upheld a board’s decisions as long as
25 such decisions were made in good faith. *Scouler & Co., LLC v. Schwartz*, No. 11-CV-06377 NC, 2012
26 WL 1502762, at *4 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 23, 2012); *Berg & Berg Enterprises, LLC v. Boyle*, 178 Cal. App.
27 4th 1020, 1046 (2009).

1 The Court may also rely on its equitable powers under section 105 of the Bankruptcy Code to
2 grant the relief requested in this Motion. Section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code empowers the Court
3 to “issue any order, process, or judgment that is necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions of
4 this title.” 11 U.S.C. § 105(a). Accordingly, the Court may authorize the Debtors to continue to
5 maintain the Cash Management System (including entering into and performing under the
6 Intercompany Transactions), as well as to pay any prepetition amounts owed with respect thereto
7 because such relief is necessary for the Debtors to carry out their fiduciary duties under section 1107(a)
8 of the Bankruptcy Code. Under section 1107(a) of the Bankruptcy Code “the debtor in possession has
9 the same fiduciary duties and liabilities as a Trustee. When the debtor is a corporation, corporate
10 officers and directors are considered to be fiduciaries both to the corporate debtor in possession and to
11 the creditors.” *In re Anchorage Nautical Tours, Inc.*, 145 B.R. 637, 643 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1992); *see also* *In re Curry & Sorensen, Inc.*, 57 B.R. 824, 828 (B.A.P. 9th Cir. 1986) (“[T]he debtor’s directors
12 bear essentially the same fiduciary obligation to creditors and shareholders as would a trustee for a
13 debtor out of possession”).

15 Numerous Courts have acknowledged that payment of prepetition obligations, irrespective of
16 statutory priorities, may be necessary to realize the objectives of the Bankruptcy Code, such as the
17 preservation and enhancement of the value of a debtor’s estate for the benefit of all creditors and other
18 stakeholders. *See, e.g., Czyzewski v. Jevic Holding Corp.*, 137 S. Ct. 973, 985 (2017) (noting that
19 courts have approved distributions that are not consistent with ordinary priority rules in instances where
20 significant Code-related objectives, such as enabling a successful reorganization, would be served and
21 listing examples such as “first-day wage orders that allow payment of employees’ prepetition wages,
22 critical vendor orders that allow payment of essential suppliers’ prepetition invoices, and roll-ups that
23 allow lenders who continue financing the debtor to be paid first on their prepetition claims”);
24 *Miltenberger v. Logansport, C&S W.R. Co.*, 106 U.S. 286, 312 (1882) (payment of pre-receivership
25 claim prior to reorganization permitted to prevent “stoppage of the continuance of [crucial] business
26 relations”); *In re Just For Feet, Inc.*, 242 B.R. 821, 826 (D. Del. 1999) (allowing payment of prepetition
27 claim because debtor could not survive without maintaining customer relationship); *In re Financial
28 News Network, Inc.* 134 B.R. 732, 736 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1991) (payment of prepetition claims allowed

1 if “critical to the debtor’s reorganization”); *In re NVR L.P.*, 147 B.R. 126, 128 (Bankr. E.D. Va. 1992)
2 (holding that “proponent of the payment must show substantial necessity”); *In re Eagle-Picher Indus., Inc.*, 124 B.R. 1021, 1023 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio 1991) (stating that payment must be “necessary to avert
3 a serious threat to the chapter 11 process”).

5 Although there is a Ninth Circuit decision which fails to recognize the grant of authority given
6 by the Bankruptcy Code to elevate certain pre-petition payments over others, that case is easily
7 distinguishable from these Chapter 11 Cases and the relief sought herein, as the pre-petition payments
8 at issue there were made by the debtor without notice, hearing, or authorization from the Bankruptcy
9 Court. *In Matter of B & W Enterprises, Inc.*, 713 F.2d 534, 535 (9th Cir. 1983). Furthermore, although
10 the *B & W* court noted that the “necessity of payment” doctrine was established in railroad
11 reorganization cases, *id.* at 535, numerous courts have extended the doctrine beyond the railroad
12 reorganization context. *See, e.g., In re Structurlite Plastics Corp.*, 86 B.R. 922, 931 (Bankr. S.D. Ohio
13 1988) (“a bankruptcy court may exercise its equity powers under § 105(a) [of the Bankruptcy Code]
14 to authorize payment of prepetition claims where such payment is necessary to permit the greatest
15 likelihood of survival of the debtors and payment of creditors in full or at least proportionately”); *In re Gulf Air*, 112 B.R. 152, 153 (Bankr. W.D. La. 1989) (finding that payment of prepetition wage and
16 benefit obligations was in the best interest of creditors and necessary for the successful reorganization
17 of the debtor and granting the debtor’s motion to pay prepetition employee expenses); *In re Chateaugay Corp.*, 80 B.R. 279, 285 (S.D.N.Y. 1987) (finding that bankruptcy courts have the authority to
18 authorize the debtor to pay certain prepetition claims).

21 Moreover, since *B & W*, the Ninth Circuit has noted in other instances that certain pre-petition
22 payments should be authorized regardless of whether they are priority payments under the Bankruptcy
23 Code. *See In re Adams Apple, Inc.*, 829 F.2d 1484, 1490 (9th Cir. 1987). In that case, in rejecting the
24 appellants’ argument that the cross-collateralization clause in a financing agreement violated the
25 “fundamental tenet of bankruptcy law that like creditors must be treated alike,” the Court of Appeals
26 noted that the argument was “flawed because the fundamental tenet conflicts with another fundamental

1 tenet – rehabilitation of debtors, which may supersede the policy of equal treatment.” *Id.* The Ninth
2 Circuit further stated that:

3 [c]ases have permitted unequal treatment of pre-petition debts when necessary for
4 rehabilitation, in such contexts as (i) pre-petition wages to key employees; (ii) hospital
5 malpractice premiums incurred prior to filing; (iii) debts to providers of unique and
6 irreplaceable supplies; and (iv) peripheral benefits under labor contracts.

7 *Id.*

8 Numerous courts within the Ninth Circuit have followed the reasoning of *In re Adams Apple* in
9 holding that the payment of certain pre-petition claims is not categorically barred when the payments
10 promote the rehabilitation of the debtor. *See, e.g., In re Petit Oil Co.*, No. 13-47285, 2015 WL
11 6684225, at *8 (Bankr. W.D. Wash. Oct. 22, 2015) (*citing In re Adams Apple Inc.* for proposition that
12 it “is permissible to treat prepetition debts unequally when necessary for rehabilitation.”); *Gordon v. Hines (In re Hines)*, 147 F.3d 1185, 1191 (9th Cir. 1998) (applying “essentially a doctrine of necessity”
13 to provide for the payment of the fees of debtor’s counsel in chapter 7 cases because without this right
14 the “entire [chapter 7] system would suffer a massive breakdown”). Furthermore, several courts within
15 this Circuit have granted relief substantially similar to that sought herein. *See, e.g., In re Tri-Valley Learning Corporation*, Case No. 16-43112-CN (Bankr. N.D. Cal. December 6, 2016) (approving
16 maintenance of prepetition cash management system); *In re Blue Earth, Inc.*, Case No. 16-30296-DM
17 (Bankr. N.D. Cal. Mar. 23, 2016) (same); *In re RDIO, Inc.*, Case No. 15-31430-DM (Bankr. N.D. Cal.
18 Nov. 20, 2015 (same). Maintaining the existing Cash Management System and satisfying certain
19 prepetition obligations related thereto plainly is in the best interests of the Debtors’ estates and all
20 parties in interest, and, therefore, should be approved. As stated, if the Debtors are required to
21 significantly alter the way in which they collect and disburse cash throughout the Cash Management
22 System, their operations will likely experience severe disruptions, which will negatively impact the
23 Debtors’ customers and their estates to the detriment of all parties in interest.

24 In furtherance of the foregoing, the Debtors request that all Banks at which the Bank Accounts
25 are maintained be authorized to continue to administer such accounts as they were maintained
26 prepetition, without interruption, in the ordinary course of business. The Debtors also request authority
27 to pay Bank Fees as the come due, including the prepetition Bank Fees that remain unpaid as of the

1 Petition Date, estimated to be in the aggregate amount of \$140,000. Payment of the Bank Fees is in
2 the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, and all parties in interest as it will prevent any disruption
3 to the Cash Management System. Moreover, because the Banks may have setoff rights with respect to
4 the prepetition Bank Fees, payment of the prepetition Bank Fees should not affect other parties in
5 interest and would merely be a matter of timing. The Banks should also be authorized to pay any and
6 all drafts, wires, and ACH transfers issued on the Bank Accounts for payment of any claims arising
7 before the Petition Date, to the extent payment of such claims are approved by an order of the
8 Bankruptcy Court, in each case so long as sufficient funds exist in these accounts. Similarly, the
9 Debtors request authority to pay all Payment Processing Fees as they come due, including the
10 prepetition Payment Processing Fees that remain unpaid as of the Petition Date, estimated to be in the
11 aggregate amount of \$400,000. Payment of the Payment Processing Fees will prevent any disruption
12 to the Debtors' ability to collect payments from their customers that pay utility bills via credit card,
13 debit card, or ACH bank payment.

14 For the foregoing reasons, continuation of the Cash Management System is necessary,
15 appropriate, and in the best interests of the Debtors, their estates, and all other parties in interest in
16 these Chapter 11 Cases and should be authorized as requested herein.

17 **B. Continued Performance of Intercompany Transactions Is Warranted**

18 As described above, the Cash Management System is similar to those commonly employed by
19 other large corporate enterprises in which transfers between related entities are tracked as
20 Intercompany Transactions. At any point in time, there may be outstanding amounts due and owing
21 between the Debtors themselves as well as between the Debtors and their Non-Debtor Affiliates and
22 Subsidiaries, all of which are recorded and documented as Intercompany Transactions.

23 As set forth above, under section 363(c)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code, a debtor in possession
24 "may enter into transactions, including the sale or lease of property of the estate, in the ordinary course
25 of business . . . and may use property of the estate in the ordinary course of business without notice or
26 a hearing." The Debtors believe that they do not require the Court's approval to continue entering into
27 and performing under the Intercompany Transactions. The Debtors enter into and perform under
28 Intercompany Transactions "in the ordinary course of business" within the meaning of section

1 363(c)(1). Furthermore, as stated above, transfers that take place pursuant to the PG&E Corp. CSA
2 are subject to CPUC oversight. The Intercompany Transactions between PG&E Corp. and the Utility
3 are integral to their ongoing operations and to providing reliable utility services to their customers. As
4 previously stated, the Intercompany Transactions between the Debtors and the Non-Debtor Affiliates
5 and Subsidiaries are relatively *de minimis*.

6 In addition, prepetition payments of amount owing with respect to StanPac, the Gill Ranch
7 Project, and the Joint Infrastructure Projects will assure the ongoing operation of those ventures, that
8 the Debtors continue to receive certain basic services on an uninterrupted basis, and allow the Debtors
9 to maintain their investment in such ventures. The Debtors also intend to continue making all post
10 Petition Date payments relating to those ventures in the ordinary course of business.

11 **C. Maintenance of the Debtors' Existing Bank Accounts and Business Forms is
12 Warranted**

13 The UST Guidelines generally require that a chapter 11 debtor, among other things: (i) establish
14 debtor-in-possession accounts for all estate monies required for the payment of taxes (including payroll
15 taxes); (ii) close all existing bank accounts and open new debtor-in-possession accounts at banks that
16 are designated as "authorized depositories" by the U.S. Trustee; (iii) obtain checks that bear the
17 designation "Debtor-in-Possession"; and (iv) reference the debtor's bankruptcy case number and type
18 of account on each such check. These requirements are designed to establish a clear line of demarcation
19 between prepetition and postpetition claims and payments and to help protect against a debtor's
20 inadvertent payment of prepetition claims by preventing banks from honoring checks drawn before the
21 commencement of a debtor's chapter 11 case.

22 In these Chapter 11 Cases, strict enforcement of the UST Guidelines would severely disrupt
23 the Debtors' ordinary financial operations by reducing efficiencies, increasing administrative burdens,
24 and creating unnecessary expenses. As stated, the Debtors maintain approximately 108 Bank Accounts
25 as part of the Cash Management System. If the Debtors were required to close these Bank Accounts
26 and open new debtor-in-possession accounts, the Debtors would be forced to reconstruct the Cash
27 Management System in its entirety. This reconstruction would be impractical and cost prohibitive in
28 an enterprise like the Debtors. B&MM, including accounting and bookkeeping employees, would need
to focus their efforts on immediately opening new bank accounts and working to establish proper cash

1 flow controls, thereby diverting them from their daily responsibilities during this critical juncture of
2 the Debtors' Chapter 11 Cases. Many accounts could not be replaced in time to effectively continue
3 the Debtors' businesses. Even if possible, the opening of new bank accounts would increase operating
4 costs, and the delays that would result from opening new accounts, revising cash management
5 procedures, and redirecting payments would negatively impact the Debtors' ability to operate their
6 business while establishing these new arrangements, to the detriment of all parties in interest.

7 The Debtors believe that their transition into chapter 11 will be significantly smoother and more
8 orderly, with minimum disruption and harm to the Debtors' operations, if the Bank Accounts are
9 continued following the Petition Date with the same account numbers. By preserving business
10 continuity and avoiding the disruption and delay to the Debtors' collection and disbursement
11 procedures that would necessarily result from closing the Bank Accounts and opening new accounts,
12 all parties in interest, including employees, vendors, customers, and creditors will be best served. The
13 confusion that would otherwise result, absent the relief requested herein, would ill-serve the Debtors'
14 rehabilitative efforts. Accordingly, the Debtors respectfully request authority to maintain the Bank
15 Accounts in the ordinary course of business.

16 In the ordinary course of business, the Debtors conduct transactions by debit, wire, ACH, and
17 other similar methods. Certain of the Debtors' customers pay the Debtors through ACH or wire
18 transfer, and the Debtors pay a majority of their third-party vendors and service providers through
19 ACH or wire transfer. Accordingly, to avoid any disruption or claims against the Debtors, the Debtors
20 are seeking to continue their prepetition debit, wire, and ACH practices during the Chapter 11 Cases.

21 Although the Debtors request that they be allowed to maintain their prepetition Bank Accounts,
22 the Banks at which such accounts are kept must adhere to certain guidelines. Specifically, unless
23 otherwise ordered by this Court, no Bank shall honor or pay any check issued on account of a
24 prepetition claim. The Banks may honor any checks issued on account of prepetition claims only
25 where this Court has specifically authorized such checks to be honored. Furthermore, the Debtors
26 request that the Banks be authorized to accept and honor all representations from the Debtors as to
27 which checks should be honored or dishonored consistent with any order(s) of this Court, whether or
28 not the checks are dated prior to, on, or subsequent to the Petition Date. The Banks shall not be liable

1 to any party on account of following the Debtors' instructions or representations regarding which
2 checks should be honored. Should any Bank honor a prepetition check, draft, wire transfer, ACH
3 transfer or other debit drawn on a Bank Account (a) at the direction of the Debtors to honor such
4 prepetition check or item, (b) in a good faith belief that the Court has authorized such prepetition item
5 to be honored, (c) as a result of an innocent mistake made despite the implementation of customary
6 item handling procedures, or (d) consistent with its past practices under the Cash Management System,
7 such Bank shall not be deemed to be, nor shall be, liable to the Debtors or their estates or otherwise in
8 violation of the Proposed Interim Order. Further, the Debtors request that the Banks shall have no
9 liability for any operational processing errors that are the result of human error.

10 To minimize expenses, the Debtors should also be permitted to maintain and continue to use
11 their Business Forms substantially in the forms existing immediately before the Petition Date. Strict
12 compliance with the UST Guidelines, which require reprinting such documents, would unnecessarily
13 increase the Debtors' expenses and would risk confusing the Debtors' customers, suppliers, and
14 employees. Accordingly, the Debtors believe it is appropriate to continue to use all Business Forms
15 as such forms were in existence prior to the commencement of these Chapter 11 Cases, without any
16 reference to the Debtors' current status as debtors in possession.

17 In short, any benefits of the Debtors' strict compliance with the UST Guidelines would be far
18 outweighed by the resulting expense, inefficiency, and disruption to the Debtors' business.
19 Accordingly, the Debtors request authority to maintain their Bank Accounts and Business Forms
20 during the Chapter 11 Cases. Furthermore, the Debtors seek a waiver of the UST Guidelines to the
21 extent that requirements outlined therein otherwise conflict with (i) the Debtors' existing practices
22 under the Cash Management System, (ii) any action taken by the Debtors in accordance with the
23 Proposed Interim Order, or (iii) any other order entered in these Chapter 11 Cases.

24 **D. Waiver of the Requirements of Section 345(b) of the Bankruptcy
25 Code Is Warranted**

26 Section 345(a) of the Bankruptcy Code governs a debtor's deposit and investment of cash
27 during a chapter 11 case and authorizes such deposits or investments as "will yield the maximum
28 reasonable net return on such money, taking into account the safety of such deposit or investment." 11

1 U.S.C. § 345(a). For deposits or investments that are not “insured or guaranteed by the United States
2 or by a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States or backed by the full faith and credit
3 of the United States,” section 345(b) of the Bankruptcy Code requires that the debtor obtain from the
4 “entity with which the money is deposited or invested a bond in favor of the United States [that is]
5 secured by the undertaking of a[n adequate] corporate surety . . . unless the court for cause orders
6 otherwise. 11 U.S.C. § 345(b).⁴

7 In chapter 11 cases such as these, strict adherence to the requirements of section 345(b) of the
8 Bankruptcy Code would be inconsistent with the value-maximizing purpose of chapter 11 by unduly
9 hampering a debtor’s ability under section 345(a) to invest money such “as will yield the maximum
10 reasonable net return on such money.” As a result, in 1994, to avoid “needlessly handcuff[ing] larger,
11 more sophisticated debtors,” Congress amended section 345(b) to provide that its strict investment
12 requirements may be waived or modified if the court so orders “for cause.” 140 Cong. Rec. H. 10,767
13 (Oct. 4, 1994). Here, the Debtors satisfy both the procedural and substantive requirements necessary
14 to obtain a waiver of section 345(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

15 First, as set forth above, twenty-one of the thirty Primary Bank Accounts are maintained at
16 banks that have been approved by the U.S. Trustee as “authorized depositories” in accordance with the
17 UST Guidelines. Although BNYM and RBC are not U.S. Trustee-designated authorized depositories,
18 BNYM is a highly rated, nationally chartered bank, and both are subject to supervision by national
19 banking regulators. BNYM is the world’s largest custodian bank and asset servicing company with
20 \$1.9 trillion in assets under management and \$33.3 trillion in assets under custody as of December
21 2017. RBC holds consolidated assets of over \$832 billion, operates in 44 countries, and has been
22 approved as a qualifying foreign banking organization by the Federal Reserve Board, thereby
23 subjecting it to the same comprehensive regulatory regime that governs the operations of U.S. domestic
24 banking entities. To the extent that the accounts at RBC and BNYM are not in technical compliance
25 with the requirements of section 345, the Debtors seek to have such requirements waived so as to allow
26

27 ⁴ In the alternative, the estate may require such entity to deposit governmental securities pursuant to
28 31 U.S.C. § 9303, which provides that when a person is required by law to give a surety bond, that
person, in lieu of a surety bond, may instead provide an eligible obligation, designated by the
Secretary of the Treasury, as an acceptable substitute for a surety bond. 31 U.S.C. § 9303(a).

1 BNYM and RBC to accept and hold cash in accordance with the Debtors' prepetition practices.
2 Furthermore, the Short-Term Investment Policy, as modified by the Debtors, is in compliance with
3 section 345(b) as the modified Short-Term Investment Policy limits investments to those that are either
4 "insured or guaranteed by the United States or by a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United
5 States or backed by the full faith and credit of the United States."

6 Moreover, there is cause to warrant a waiver of the requirements of section 345(b) of the
7 Bankruptcy Code. Courts consider the "totality of the circumstances" in determining whether "cause"
8 exists, with particular regard to the following factors:

- 9 a) The sophistication of the debtor's business;
- 10 b) The size of the debtor's business operations;
- 11 c) The amount of investments involved;
- 12 d) The bank ratings (Moody's and Standard and Poor) of the financial
institutions where debtor in possession funds are held;
- 13 e) The complexity of the case;
- 14 f) The safeguards in place within the debtor's own business of insuring
the safety of the funds;
- 15 g) The debtor's ability to reorganize in the face of a failure of one or more
of the financial institutions;
- 16 h) The benefit to the debtor;
- 17 i) The harm, if any, to the estate; and
- 18 j) The reasonableness of the debtor's request for relief from § 345(b)
requirements in light of the overall circumstances of the case.

23 *In re Serv. Merch. Co.*, 240 B.R. 894, 896 (Bankr. M.D. Tenn. 1999).

24 Here, "cause" exists because, among other things: (i) all of the Banks holding significant
25 balances are highly rated, reputable banks that are subject to supervision by national banking
26 regulators; (ii) the Debtors retain the right to close accounts with the Banks and establish new bank
27 accounts as needed; (iii) the cost associated with satisfying the requirements of section 345(b) is
28 needlessly burdensome to the Debtors and their estates; and (iv) the process of satisfying such

1 requirements would lead to needless inconvenience and inefficiencies in the management of the
2 Debtors' business. The benefits of a waiver would far outweigh any potential harm to the estates from
3 noncompliance with section 345(b). The complex nature of the Debtors' businesses requires numerous
4 bank accounts. Moreover, a bond secured by the undertaking of a corporate surety would be
5 prohibitively expensive (if such a bond could be obtained at all). Furthermore, based on its experience
6 opening new bank accounts, the Debtors estimate that it would take months to create a new suite of
7 bank accounts to service their business. The Debtors submit that the costs of disruption to the business
8 by having to close dozens of accounts far outweighs the risks of the Debtors continuing to maintain
9 their historic Bank Accounts during the administration of the Chapter 11 Cases. Accordingly, the
10 Court should waive the requirements of section 345(b) in these Chapter 11 Cases on a final basis.
11 However, if the U.S. Trustee needs additional time to consider the waiver, in the alternative, the Court
12 should, on an interim basis, extend the Debtors' time to comply with the requirements of section 345(b)
13 of the Bankruptcy Code for sixty (60) days while the Debtors discuss the issue with the U.S. Trustee
14 and any statutory committees appointed in these Chapter 11 Cases.

15 **V. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

16 Nothing contained herein is intended to be or shall be construed as (i) an admission as to the
17 validity of any claim against the Debtors, (ii) a waiver of the Debtors' or any appropriate party in
18 interest's rights to dispute any claim, or (iii) an approval or assumption of any agreement, contract,
19 program, policy, or lease under section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code. Likewise, if the Court grants the
20 relief sought herein, any payment made pursuant to the Court's order is not intended to be and should
21 not be construed as an admission to the validity of any claim or a waiver of the Debtors' rights to
22 dispute such claim subsequently.

23 **VI. IMMEDIATE ENTRY OF AN ORDER PURSUANT TO BANKRUPTCY RULE 6003**

24 Bankruptcy Rule 6003 provides that, to the extent relief is necessary to avoid immediate and
25 irreparable harm, a Bankruptcy Court may issue an order granting "a motion to use, sell, lease, or
26 otherwise incur an obligation regarding property of the estate, including a motion to pay all or part of
27 a claim that arose before the filing of the petition" before twenty-one (21) days after filing of the
28 petition. As described herein and in the Wells Declaration, the Debtors' business operations rely

1 heavily on the Debtors' Cash Management System, Bank Accounts, and Business Forms. Any
2 disruption in the continuation of these practices would severely disrupt the Debtors' operations to the
3 detriment and prejudice of all parties in interest. Accordingly, the Debtors have satisfied the
4 requirements for immediate entry of an order granting the relief requested herein pursuant to
5 Bankruptcy Rule 6003.

6 **VII. REQUEST FOR BANKRUPTCY RULE 6004 WAIVERS**

7 The Debtors request a waiver of the notice requirements under Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a) and
8 any stay of the order granting the relief requested herein pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h). As
9 explained above and in the Wells Declaration, the relief requested herein is necessary to avoid
10 immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtors. Accordingly, ample cause exists to justify the waiver
11 of the notice requirements under Bankruptcy Rule 6004(a) and the fourteen-day stay imposed by
12 Bankruptcy Rule 6004(h), to the extent such notice requirements and stay apply.

13 **VIII. NOTICE**

14 Notice of this Motion will be provided to (i) the Office of the United States Trustee for Region
15 17 (Attn: James L. Snyder, Esq. and Timothy Laffredi, Esq.); (ii) the Debtors' fifty (50) largest
16 unsecured creditors on a consolidated basis; (iii) the Securities and Exchange Commission; (iv) the
17 Internal Revenue Service; (v) the Office of the California Attorney General; (vi) the California Public
18 Utilities Commission; (vii) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission; (viii) the Federal Energy Regulatory
19 Commission; (ix) the Office of the United States Attorney for the Northern District of California; (x)
20 the Banks; (xi) counsel for the agent under the Debtors' proposed debtor in possession financing
21 facilities; and (xii) those persons who have formally appeared in these Chapter 11 Cases and requested
22 service pursuant to Bankruptcy Rule 2002. Based on the urgency of the circumstances surrounding
23 this Motion and the nature of the relief requested herein, the Debtors respectfully submit that no further
24 notice is required.

25 No previous request for the relief sought herein has been made by the Debtors to this or any
26 other court.

1 WHEREFORE the Debtors respectfully request entry of an order granting the relief requested
2 herein and such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

3 Dated: January 29, 2019

4 **WEIL, GOTSHAL & MANGES LLP**

5 **KELLER & BENVENUTTI LLP**

6
7 By: /s/ Tobias S. Keller
Tobias S. Keller

8 *Proposed Attorneys for Debtors
9 and Debtors in Possession*

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